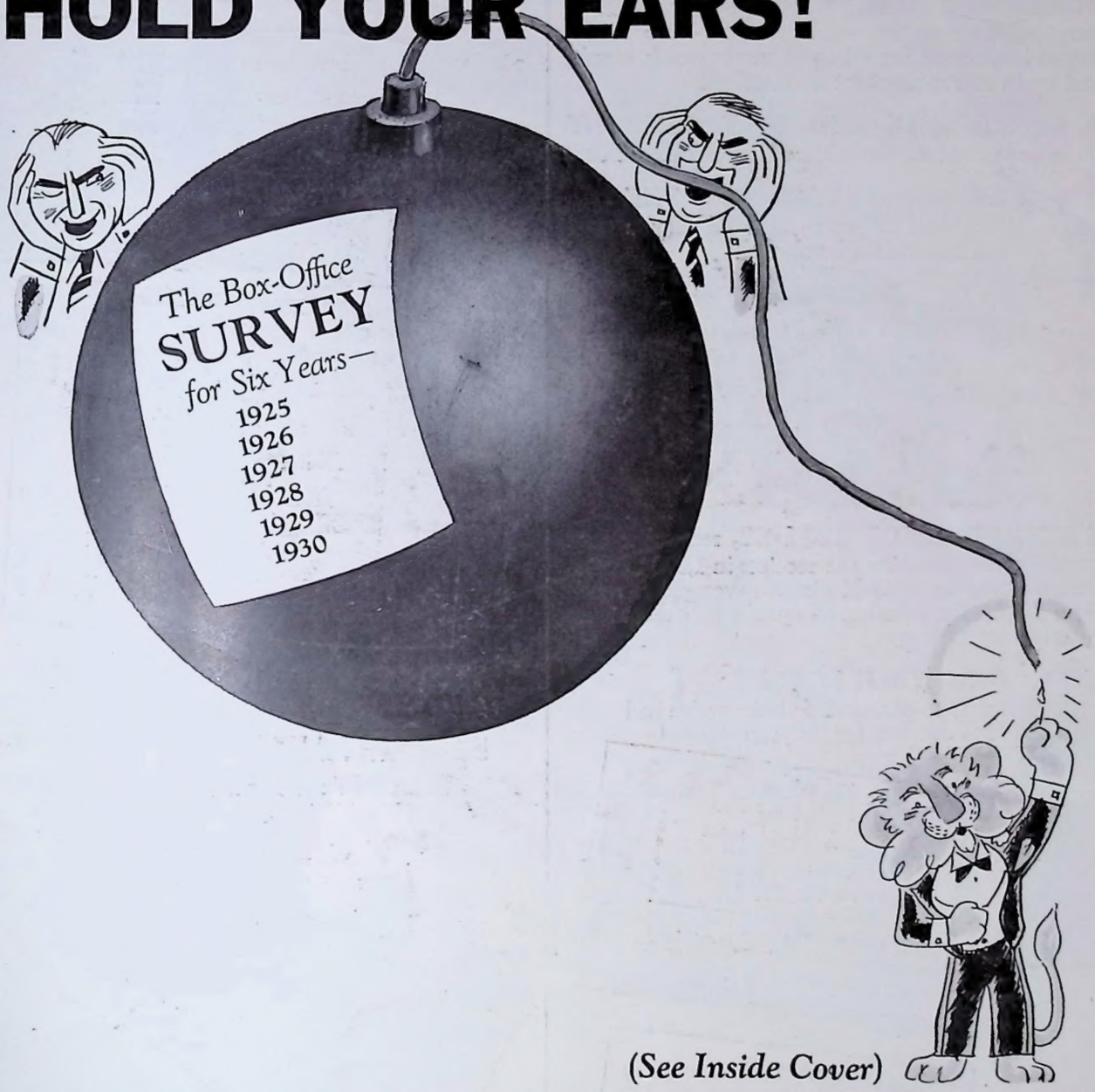
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 23, No. 9 TORONTO 2, CANADA June 27th, 1931

HOLD YOUR EARS!



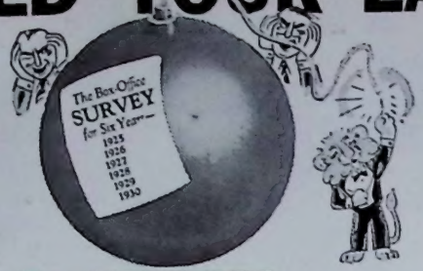
(See Inside Cover)

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

HOLD YOUR EARS!



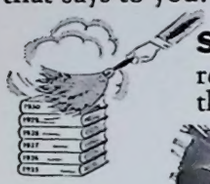
WHEN IT EXPLODES—

it will influence the buying of product for next season more than any other single factor—Get ready for fireworks.

WHILE THE REST OF THE industry shined up the adjectives for a new season — Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer got busy digging up facts!

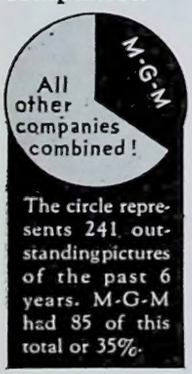
WE KICKED OUT THE Dictionary — When you've got facts you don't need the hooey of words, words, words, all tricked up in Announcement Book colors!

M-G-M IS THE ONE AND ONLY COMPANY that says to you: "Let the Box-Office Figures Talk for us!"



SO WE DUSTED OFF THE records of six years—and we'll tell you the results in a bomb-shell

WHEN YOU THINK OF 1931-32, remember this: An impartial survey covering the receipts in 1,000 theatres shows that Business on M-G-M pictures averaged so much better than all pictures of other companies that there is no comparison!


M-G-M
All other companies combined!
The circle represents 241 outstanding pictures of the past 6 years. M-G-M had 85 of this total or 35%.

AND WHEN IT COMES solely to outstanding hits—we've had 35% of them for six years—Look!

M-G-M in 1925

GREAT DIVIDE	M-G-M 8
HIS SECRETARY	next 6
LADY OF THE NIGHT	next 5
MERRY WIDOW	next 4
MIDSHIPMAN	next 2
SALLY, IRENE AND MARY	Total 35
NEVER THE TWAIN SHALL MEET	M-G-M had 8 or 32%
THE UNHOLY THREE	

M-G-M in 1926

THE TORRENT	M-G-M 10
BEVERLY OF GRAUSTARK	next 8
BROWN OF HARVARD	next 4
MIKE	next 2
ROAD TO MANDALAY	Total 24
WANING SEX	M-G-M had 10 or 42%
TEMPTRESS	
UPSTAGE	
TIN HATS	
FLESH AND THE DEVIL	

M-G-M in 1927

SCARLET LETTER	M-G-M 15
TELL IT TO THE MARINES	Next 12
SLIDE, KELLY, SLIDE	Next 5
MR. WU	Next 3
LOVERS	Next 2
ROOKIES	Total 37
THE UNKNOWN	M-G-M had 15 or 40%
TWELVE MILES OUT	
MOCKERY	
BIG PARADE	
ROAD TO ROMANCE	
BEN HUR	
SPRING FEVER	
MAN, WOMAN AND SIN	
LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT	

M-G-M in 1928

LOVE	M-G-M 12
WEST POINT	Next 8
DIVINE WOMAN	Next 7
STUDENT PRINCE	Next 4
LATEST FROM PARIS	Next 3
ACROSS TO SINGAPORE	Next 3
LAUGH CLOWN LAUGH	Next 1
OUR DANCING DAUGHTERS	Total 38
EXCESS BAGGAGE	M-G-M had 12 or 31%
SHADOWS OF THE NIGHT	
MASKS OF THE DEVIL	
LADY OF CHANCE	

M-G-M in 1929

FLYING FLEET	M-G-M 20
ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE	Next 15
WILD ORCHIDS	Next 6
BELLAMY TRIAL	Next 5
THE DUKE STEPS OUT	Next 4
THE PAGAN	Next 2
WHERE EAST IS EAST	Next 1
BROADWAY MELODY	Next 1
TRIAL OF MARY DUGAN	Next 1
LAST OF MRS. CHEYNEY	Total 55
SINGLE STANDARD	M-G-M had 20 or 36%
OUR MODERN MAIDENS	
SPEEDWAY	
MARIANNE	
UNTAMED	
HOLLYWOOD REVUE	
NAVY BLUES	
DYNAMITE	
DEVIL MAY CARE	
THEIR OWN DESIRE	

M-G-M IN 1930-31

ANNA CHRISTIE	M-G-M 20
MONTANA MOON	next 13
DIVORCEE	" 6
ROGUE SONG	" 5
CAUGHT SHORT	" 4
BIG HOUSE	" 4
THE UNHOLY THREE	" 3
OUR BLUSHING BRIDES	" 3
ROMANCE	" 2
LET US BE GAY	" 1
CALL OF THE FLESH	" 1
GOOD NEWS	Total 62
MIN AND BILL	M-G-M had 20 or 32%
PAID	
REDUCING	
INSPIRATION	
IT'S A WISE CHILD	
DANCE FOOLS DANCE	
STRANGERS MAY KISS	
TRADER HORN	

THIS SEASON'S NOT OVER YET!

Among other hits, released since the above was compiled—The Secret Six (Wallace Beery) Shipmates (Robert Montgomery) Laughing Sinners (Joan Crawford) and now the new talkie of the industry, Norma Shearer in "A Free Soul"

WEAR IT *next season and* REST EASY!

Following is Revised List of M-G-M Pictures in 1931-1932
30 STAR PICTURES
MARION DAVIES (2)
NORMA SHEARER (2)
GRETA GARBO (2)
JOAN CRAWFORD (2)
JOHN GILBERT (3)
WILLIAM HAINES (3)
BUSTER KEATON (2)
ROBT. MONTGOMERY (3)
RAMON NOVARRO (2)
WALLACE BEERY (2)
LAWRENCE TIBBETT (1)
LUNT-FONTANNE (1)
LAUREL-HARDY (1)
COSMOPOLITAN (4)
Special Information Forthcoming About Marie Dressler Productions
13 EXCEPTIONAL PICTURES
FLYING HIGH—Ann White's stage hit. With Bert Lahr.
THE CHRISTIAN—Hall Caine's famous novel.
THE AWAKENING—Another triumph by Van Druten!
BOARDING SCHOOL—Flaming youth at school.
NIGHT COURT—Drama while the city sleeps!
RED HEADED WOMAN—Katharine Brush's Saturday serial.
BRIDGE VS. BRIDGE—Divorce told with thrills!
AFTER ALL—Van Druten's great stage success!
ARSENE LUPIN—Lorenzo Semple's detective masterpiece!
THREE WISE FOOLS—by Bayard Veiller, the author of "Trial"!
GUILTY HANDS—Austin Strong's greatest stage hit!
THE SQUAW MAN—Cecil De Mille's greatest show!
HONOLULU—A brand new showman idea!
5 "MARQUEE" Productions
Five Big Productions attuned to the psychology of the entertainment hour!

The Crowning Glory of METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER (May 7th)

RKO Acquire Twenty New York Theatres! Watch RKO Build to Power

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established in 1915 for Exhibitors
Subscription: $5.00 yearly
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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

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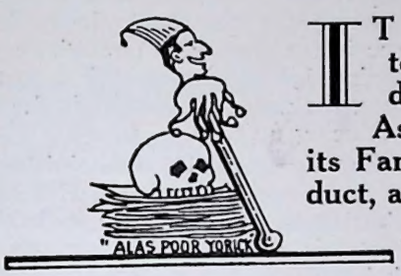
Long Term Contracts



IT IS bad business in Canada, for producer - distributors to get the habit of giving Paramount-Publix their product, on long lease contracts.

As the situation stands now, Paramount-Publix has for its Famous Players theatres, a franchise on Paramount product, and a ten year contract for Fox Films. In addition Paramount-Publix has other affiliations which gives it first choice and control of product.

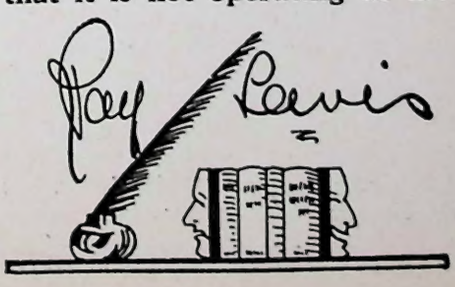
There has been an investigation of Famous Players, etc., under the Combine Investigation Act; and this contracting of product for long periods cannot help but aggravate the present situation; and provoke the Independents to further protest.

While we concede that it may appear good business for companies to arrange long-term contracts for their product, by way of a security of distribution, we contend that at least in Canada, considering all things, such contracts are not good business, and another indication that Independents will find it more difficult than ever to protect their investments.

Competition for product keeps ever narrowing; and the reaction to such a situation cannot help the Film Industry here. In making long term contracts with Paramount-Publix here, the producer-distributor is taking too much for granted; and that is that Paramount-Publix will be permitted to monopolize the dominant film trade of Canada without opposition.

It is most logical to conclude that Paramount-Publix is going to get competition and opposition. A British chain of theatres will be introduced into Canada. It only needs six key cities to cut into Paramount's profits here to such a degree, as to provoke attention.

Paramount cannot monopolize Canada by contracting for all the best product distributed here. Already this company operates as a producer-distributor-exhibiting Combination, and exhibits monopolistic attributes which cannot go unchallenged. The long term contracts it is endeavouring to make with various companies will become a question of Government Investigation, if Paramount does not "Cease and Desist" and begin to realize that it is not operating in the U. S., but in Canada; and that every effort will be made to keep the Canadian Film Market open for all film product, and our Canadian theatreowners in business.



RAY

RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

THREE REELERS are being suggested as "a cure for double features." There is no cure for "double features" save a surgical operation, which means to "cut them out."

The two reel comedies and other picture novelties, the news reel and scenics should be sufficient by way of picture material, to make up an entertaining program, with one full length feature for the big attraction.

Get exhibitors and the public into the Short Subject Habit. Short Subjects have never had the attention which they deserve; and yet on many occasions they have, not only been the high spot in an evening's entertainment, but saved the show!

THIS is not the first time that The Digest has endeavoured to convince exhibitors of the value of Short Subjects. We presented these very same arguments, when the silent pictures were being utilized on double feature programs.

Exhibitors have had some experience with double feature bills — producers also; and experience should make an impression.

The introduction of "three-reelers" is not the solution to the "lack of attendance" problem. This lack of attendance has been brought about by various experiments; and not least among these, was the idea that theatre patronage could be maintained and increased in accordance with a Pattern of Show Business, designed and filled in by an executive in a head office, miles away from the theatres, where the policy was to function.

Only one man can know what his theatre requires, and that is the man who runs it. If he does not know, he is not equipped for the position; and should be asked to resign. If he does know, give him a chance to show what he knows. It is a very poor business policy which will not utilize profit-making material.

IF A THEATRE company is being run to reflect glory upon one, or a few persons, then eliminate your showmen, and substitute with some college graduates, whom the "glorified ones" can use as chess upon their checker board, but if a theatre company, operating a chain of theatres, is interested in seeing these theatres operate successfully, let the manager in charge of the theatre officiate as a human being, a showman, and not a "Dummy!"

We know that previous to Motion Picture History, Road Shows were sent out over circuits, each show had its advance agent and manager, to "put over the show;" and the local manager co-operated, and gave the advance agent the right summary of angles through which to secure business, because the local man can only be the one man, who knows.

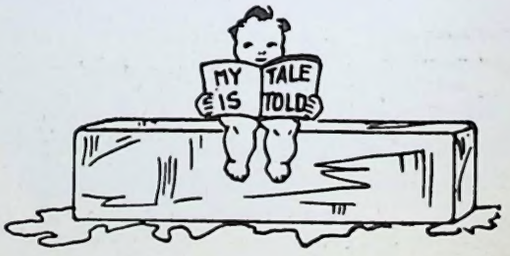
IN MOTION PICTURES, the local manager of a theatre, belonging to a chain, has gradually become a figurehead, or office clerk, whose duty consists in seeing the theatre is kept clean, and a statement of receipts returned. The Show is selected for him, and against his judgment he has to take it, for in many instances, the product selected is the product of the theatre's producing unit.

The outstanding showmen have diminished, for they are competition to certain executives, who have to find a reason for the big money they are collecting. Even when a new theatre is opened, it has become the custom to give the inhabitants of the village, or town, a treat, by a display of photographs of certain executives of the company, not locally domiciled, and of less interest to possible theatre patrons than a picture of the "Man in the Moon."

The "Vanity Complex" in our business is of substantial proportions, and quite in order, when it makes "good copy," but after looking at the faces of some executives from the home office of theatre companies, covering a page of very good space in a local paper, faces which only their mother could love, and about four inches of space devoted to a story of the manager, who is to build up a patronage for the new theatre, we find therein one of the answers to a lack of public patronage and decreased picture profits.

WE LEARN that in a statement made by Mr. Will H. Hays to Mayor Martins of East Orange, in answer to a letter sent to him by the Mayor, protesting the showing of gangster films, that Mr. Hays claims that the gangster films seek to "debunk the gangster."

Public sentiment is against moving picture argument in this matter; and regardless of "profit and loss" involved, and in view of the fact that the Industry is endeavouring to win back its lost juvenile attendance, the "gangster film" should be allowed to "fade out" of the picture; and Mr. Hays should be the last person in all our Industry to attempt to defend its presentation. This viewpoint will be criticized in our Industry, but the sooner our press learns to "speak its own mind" and releases itself from the shackles of being a "yessir" the more valuable will our press become to our Industry.



Nine Film Boards Dropped in U.S. 23 Operating

The New Film on Broadway

By *Betty Ross*

"JUST A GIGOLO," an adaptation of the play "Dancing Partner;" directed by Jack Conway; produced by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

A highly entertaining talkie based on the play "Dancing Partner" and featuring the popular William Haines.

Broadway audiences are once more enjoying Jack Conway's comedy.

William Haines is in the role of Lord Brummell, the son of Lord Hampton, a good old soul who is somewhat worried about his son's Casanova-like habits, and tries to convert him to a serious young man. He especially is anxious for his son to marry Roxana Hartley of whom he is very fond, but Brummell insists that all women are alike, faithless, etc.

However he agrees to marry Roxana whom he has never met, if she ignores his wooing for a single month. He goes to Biarritz, where Roxana is spending the season, and poses as M. Jolie, a gigolo. Roxana employs him to teach her dancing. She insists that the engaging of a gigolo is being done in high society and, after telling Lord Hampton about M. Jolie, the supposed gigolo comes to the table, much to the consternation of his father.

Lord Hampton tries to dissuade Brummell from flirting with the intelligent and attractive Roxana, but the son persists in the carrying out of their agreement. Brummell has an alert mind and he sees to it that he spends as many hours as possible in Roxana's company. Roxana has her wits about her and she is no easy prey for the man masquerading as a gigolo.

The climax comes when Brummell arouses Roxana's fury and her dainty hands slap young Brummell's face several times. But this attack, instead of making the young man angry, causes an expression of agreeable surprise mingled with happiness to come to his flushed physiognomy. He was wrong, after all, about women!

William Haines gives a fine performance and C. Aubrey Smith, Irene Purcell and Charlotte Granville interpret their roles very nicely.

* * * *

"BACHELOR APARTMENT," based on a story by John Howard Lawson; directed by Lowell Sherman; a Radio picture.

A picture that causes much merriment these days is "Bachelor Apartment," an adaptation of a story by John Lawson. The film opens in Carter's spacious and luxurious apartment. Carter is leaving for his office and on the way has a flirtation with a girl in a taxi, and subsequently he has other encounters with the fair sex.

Irene Dunne plays Helene Andrews, a girl who is in New York with her sister Lita. Both are looking for employment. Lita is a flighty creature who believes that she has attracted the attention of a millionaire, who is really Rollins. This fact brings about a meeting between Helene and Carter and results in the girl being employed as Carter's secretary.

The tireless and flirtatious Mrs. Carraway succeeds in making trouble for Carter, and although Helene comes to his assistance when Mrs. Carraway's husband is pointing a pistol at Carter, she (Helene) is disappointed in her employer, believing that he is guilty of having enticed the woman to his apartment. But in the end Helene realizes that Carter really wants her to marry her and abandon his philanderings.

Miss Dunne is competent as Helene. Miss Murray appears as the demonstrative Mrs. Carraway. Norman Kerry, Claudia Dell, Ivan Lebedeff and Purnell Pratt do fairly well in their respective roles.

* * * *

"NOMADIE," a travel film through Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Germany, photographed by Alexander Singelow and presented by Marius Anderson, with lecture accompaniment.

This is a silent picture record of a trip through Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Germany, with an off-stage voice which turns up many a bright nugget of information to illumine the various scenes. Ancient newsreels of such events as the French evacuation of the Rhineland and the experimental flight of the giant DO-X have been spliced with the views on everyday life in the fields and cities.

The best part of "Nomadie" is the last, showing those curious and seldom photographed snow gypsies, the Laplanders, at work and play. The camera watches these folk at their meals, in the primitive tent school and hut dwellings, at their snow games and dashing about their bleak wilderness heath in crude sleds drawn by partly domesticated reindeer. The most fascinating bit in the whole film is a panoramic view of the Laplanders driving a great reindeer herd across a river.

Among rural scenes in Bavaria, the camera pauses to catch a symbolic harvest dance in which the young men perform with scythes and the young women with rakes. In Sweden one journeys up the Gota Canal, the longest waterway in the world, 240 miles in length, reaching a height at one point of 300 feet above sea level, and built more than a century ago. The Swedish scene is livened with glimpses of men shooting the rapids in bobbing rowboats.

(*Special to Digest from Winnipeg*)

"Winnipeg's theatre-going public is more 'choosy' now than ever. If there is something that happens to catch the public fancy, Winnipeg seems to have the money for it."

This was the opinion expressed this week by H. M. Thomas, Winnipeg, Western Division Manager of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation. Whether the average citizen is continuing his normal life in the present difficulties is best revealed in the amusement and recreation field, he said.

"Theatres in Winnipeg still draw crowds when they present what the public wants at that particular time. You may call it caution or increasing care in ordinary expenditures. As far as Winnipeg is concerned, caution has always been in the make-up of local audiences, among the most critical in Canada," declared Mr. Thomas.

(*Special to Digest from Winnipeg*)

"The Metropolitan Theatre has been held up," came a voice over the telephone to Winnipeg police headquarters shortly after seven o'clock the evening of June 15. Climbing into the armoured car, detectives gave people down town a thrill as they sped to the theatre only to find they had been made the victim of a practical joke.

Cecil de Mille Makes Plea for Independent Effort in Production of Pictures

Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein — A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production, "Daybreak" with Ramon Novarro. Ramon Novarro, the hero, is a gay young Lieutenant in the Austrian Imperial Guards; he meets a music teacher in a cafe, and helps her out of a very embarrassing position. The Lieutenant takes her to a wine garden, and after they have spent the night together, tells her that he cannot marry as a Lieutenant's salary is not sufficient to support a wife. He gives her some money, and the girl, disillusioned, goes away. However when the hero realizes that he loves the girl, he returns, only to find her gone. Later they meet, and the music teacher is quite wealthy, and has had many affairs. She gives him no chance to ask for forgiveness; and trying to forget her, he gambles and loses a great deal of money, which he is unable to pay. The unwritten law of the Guards is that either you pay your debts of honour or commit suicide, and Novarro has determined to settle his debts the latter way; but his uncle gives him the money. He returns to the girl, who has forgiven all, and they are married. Directed by Jacques Feyder.

IMPERIAL—Manager M. V. Knevels—Warner Oland and Sally Eilers in the Fox Film, "The Black Camel." It is a thrilling mystery drama which has its setting in Honolulu. A very popular Hollywood actress, who is visiting Honolulu, is murdered, and suspicion centres around two people. First her jealous ex-husband, with whom she was last seen, and also her wealthy fiance. Charlie Chan, the head detective in Honolulu, takes the case, and with the help of Sally Eilers, a friend of the dead actress, is successful in solving the identity of the murderer. Chan discovers she was murdered by her maid. The reason for the maid's actions are that her husband was a well-known Hollywood actor whom the actress killed. The necessary bits of humour, in this picture, are supplied by the odd Chinese sayings of the clever detective, who takes everything calmly, just as it comes. It is directed by Hamilton MacFadden, from the story by Earl Derr Biggers.

TIVOLI — Manager Jimmy Lynch — "Daddy Long Legs," a Fox picture with Janet Gaynor and Warner Baxter, playing for the second week to capacity houses. It is adapted from the play by Jean Webster, and is directed by Alfred Santell. The supporting cast includes Una Merkel, John Arledge, Claude Gillingwater, Sr.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley—A Paramount production, "Up Pops the Devil," with Skeets Gallagher, Stuart Irwin, Norman Foster, Carole Lombard and Lillyan Tashman. The story concerns a wife who is determined to support her husband, in order for him to have time to write novels for the screen. The husband, however, resents the idea that all his friends are aware of this condition. They quarrel and separate, but the husband is successful, and makes good. Skeets Gallagher practically steals the picture from Norman Foster, the principal. This picture marks the return of Lillyan Tashman as a Paramount feature player. Miss Tashman takes the part of a sob-sister. Directed by A. Edward Sutherland.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea—A wild West melodrama, "The Painted Desert," featuring Bill Boyd, Helen Twelvetrees, and J. Farrell MacDonald, also William Farnum. MacDonald and Farnum are pioneers who want to be the guardian of a baby they have found in a deserted wagon. They become bitter enemies when Farnum gets the baby, but he disowns him later on, when Boyd enters into an agreement with MacDonald. Boyd is in love with MacDonald's daughter, Helen Twelvetrees, and in the end the two enemies are reconciled, and give their consent to the marriage. A Pathe picture directed by Howard Higgin.

Pathe News—Winnie Mae Plane Crosses Ocean in 'Round the World Flight

The Pathe News-Winnie Mae Round the World Flight plane covered the first leg of its attempt to halve the globe-circling record of the Graf Zeppelin having arrived at Berlin (Wednesday, June 24). The trans-Atlantic flight from Harbor Grace to Sealand Airdrome was made in fifteen hours and seven minutes. Wiley V. Post, pilot, and Harold Gatty, navigator, took off from Newfoundland at 3:58 o'clock (Tuesday) June 23rd, afternoon and landed in England at 7:45 o'clock the following day, taking off twenty minutes later for Berlin. The 2,000 mile ocean flight was made at a speed of 135 miles an hour.

Pathe News joined in the speed globe-circling enterprise with F. C. Hall of Oklahoma City, its sponsor, without any fanfare or advance publicity, preferring to spring a surprise when the plane with the Rooster crest reached its first goal. The "Rooster" should cover the globe in a week according to present schedules.

Harold Gatty of Los Angeles, long an expert still photographer, was trained for several weeks by Pathe News experts in the handling of automatic cameras so that he might record highlights of the flight for audiences throughout the world. He is equipped with speed cameras, a large supply of film and a wealth of credentials to facilitate his work in behalf of the news reel.

From Berlin the route of the Winnie Mae will be over Russia to Alaska to Canada to Cleveland to New York.

United Artists' "Hell's Angels" Grosses Over $4,000,000

"Hell's Angels," the most expensive motion picture ever filmed, has already grossed more than $4,000,000, according to figures just released by Howard Hughes' auditors.

Officials of United Artists, handling the world-wide distribution of the air spectacle, estimate that "Hell's Angels" will ultimately take in more than $7,000,000, a new world's box-office record.

The Hughes extravaganza is still playing to capacity houses in second and third-run theatres throughout the country, and is registering new box-office records in foreign countries in all parts of the world.

Based on present box-office reports and potential receipts, the net return to Howard Hughes will be considerably in excess of $4,000,000, which was the approximate cost of making the picture.

"Hell's Angels" has created more comment, verbal and written, than any motion picture in the history of the industry, and box-office returns now justify its enormous cost.

FOR SALE

For disposal or equip silent theatre in town or city of seven thousand people, Northern Electric Equipment less than one year old. Good opportunity for someone. For further particulars apply

BOX 890 — COLLINGWOOD, ONT.

Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America Attack Hays Organization

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New Sound Screen Walker Sound Screens; the peer of all white screens. Standard equipment in all R.K.O. Publix and Fox theatres — and Walker SILVER-SHEET, finest screen surface made for pictures up to 20 feet wide.

Paramount Spray A stainless spray which will clear your theatre of all vermin, flies and mosquitoes. 100% protection against moths — protect your investment in sound proofing — use Paramount spray.

Visitron P.E. Cells Better Sound and lower maintenance with Visitron Photo-Electric Cells — there is a Visitron cell for every make of sound-on-film equipment; Canadian list price, $36.00 each.

Sound Trailers "God-Save-the-King," "O! Canada," "Exit March," "Overture" and any special trailer sound or silent, priced from $3.50 each up.

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Suit Won by Schenck, Loew and Bernstein

The suit instituted by Edward G. Stanton against Nicholas Schenck, David Bernstein, and Arthur M. Loew, for an accounting of $9,000,000 in profits, which the complainant alleged the accused gentleman received when the Loew-Fox deal was consummated, was decided against Mr. Stanton by Justice Salvatore Cotillo, of the New York Supreme Court.

Independents to Organize Deputation Ottawa

Rumblings of further Paramount-Publix encroachments into the Independent film field are being heard; and it is rumoured that certain Independent theatre owners are organizing a deputation to Ottawa where they will voice a protest.

George Arliss Finds England Interested in His American Roles

George Arliss, now spending the summer at his home in England, has found great public interest there in his two latest roles on the talking screen, both of which have been American in character. In "The Millionaire," which has scored as great a success in England as in this country, Mr. Arliss plays the part of a Middle Western industrialist. In "Alexander Hamilton," which was finished just before he left Hollywood and has not yet been released, his role is of course that of the brilliant American statesman of the early days of the Republic.

Parents Urged to Boycott Gangster Films

Mrs. Clara Savage Littledale, and George J. Hecht, Editor and Publisher of "The Parents Magazine," are introducing an appeal across the United States, urging parents to boycott gangster films!

Canada's Projection Equipment Headquarters

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Round About the Studios

"Upper Underworld" has been completed and now is in the cutting room. This is the First National picture which has Walter Huston and Loretta Young in the leads, and concerns the doings of a milk racketeer in a typical large American city. The cast also includes Doris Kenyon, David Manners, John Halliday, Dudley Digges, Willard Robertson, Gilbert Emery and Douglas Scott. It is based upon an original by Rowland V. Lee and his brother, Donald W. Lee. Rowland Lee directed. Huston plays the racketeer and Loretta Young is his daughter. It is said to afford both their finest dramatic opportunities to date.

Lionel Barrymore has been signed for the role of a villainous Russian Baron in "The Yellow Ticket," Fox film starring Elissa Landi.

David Manners will enact the romantic lead opposite Miss Landi, that of an American newspaper correspondent.

"The Yellow Ticket," which will be directed by Alfred Santell, is adapted from Michael Morton's sensational play which created a sensation when it was produced on the stage.

Frederick Burton, remembered on Broadway for his appearances in "Coquette" with Helen Hayes and in "Roadside," supports Eddie Quillan in his latest RKO Pathe feature, "Sweepstakes." Burton plays "Pop" Blake, owner of a racing stable where Eddie is employed as a jockey. Their scenes were produced at the Agua Caliente and Tanforan tracks during recent sweepstakes. Al Rogell directed.

Two years ago Tom Mix was offered so much money to star in the circus that he left the movies flat. Ever since then the strongest kind of inducements have been made to him to return. Universal, after weeks of negotiation, signed him up for a series of six talking pictures with his famous horse, Tony.

Clifford Dempsey, well known screen character actor and comedian, portrays a dumb policeman in Benny Rubin's new RKO Pathe featurette, "Julius Sizzer," a burlesque underworld comedy directed by Edward Luddy.

Charles Starrett has been signed by Howard Hughes to play opposite Billie Dove in "The Age For Love," her first starring picture for United Artists. Starrett, who distinguished himself in "The Royal Family of Broadway," "Fast and Loose" and other recent pictures, is being borrowed from Paramount for the role.

Gustav von Seyffertitz is the latest addition to the cast of "Safe in Hell," which Warner Bros. are producing at their studios in Burbank, Calif. He is one of the best-known "type" actors on the screen, and in former years was a prominent figure on the stage, besides having been for several years general stage director for the late Charles Frohman. Lillian Bond and David Manners head the cast of "Safe in Hell," which has been adapted by Maude Fulton from the stage play by Huston Branch. The director is Michael Curtiz. In the supporting cast are Victor Varconi, Richard Bennett, Morgan Wallace, Ivan Simpson, Ralf Harolde, Nina Mae McKinney and others. Harolde, by the way, has a prominent part with Edward G. Robinson in "Smart Money."

Ann Harding, R.K.O. Pathe star, with Louella Parsons, noted movie writer.

Oscar Radin, former Broadway musical director who is now in the music department at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios turned actor — to enact himself. He plays an orchestra leader and conducts an orchestra in "The Great Lover," in which Adolphe Menjou and Irene Dunne are featured. Radin was musical director of "New Moon," "Blossom Time" and many other Broadway stage hits.

With the exception of a leading lady, Christy Cabanne, who will start production at Universal City of his own story, "Graft," tomorrow, has his cast complete. The lead is a young newspaper man and will be played by Regis Toomey, whose work in "Alibi," "Street of Chance," "Light of Western Skies" and "The Finger Points," have given him and his ability an exceptionally high standing. Others in the cast are Dorothy Revier, Boris Karloff, Richard Tucker, George Irving and William Davidson.

Having directed almost every type of picture for Fox Films except an outdoor one, Hamilton MacFadden adds a Western to his list with his new assignment, "Riders of the Purple Sage." It will be an adaptation of the popular Zane Grey novel of the same title.

George O'Brien will play the lead. He recently finished playing in "A Holy Terror," in which Sally Eilers was his leading lady.

Two popular Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer comediennes, Zazu Pitts and Thelma Todd, who are being featured in a series of Hall Roach comedies.

Charles Bickford, well known screen leading man, has been teamed with Conrad Nagel, in the principal male role of "Pagan Lady," Columbia's adaptation of last season's sensational stage play of the same name by William Du Bois. Evelyn Brent is featured in the title part, with John Francis Dillon directing.

One of the first actors of the silent screen is appearing in one of the latest talkies, in the person of Hallam Cooley who is appearing in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Horseflesh." Cooley first played in the original Keystone comedies, and has been continuously in pictures ever since. Since talkies came in, he has appeared in more than twenty of these.

Eddie Quillan, whose first RKO Pathe 1931-32 vehicle, "Sweepstakes," has its world premiere on Broadway at the Mayfair Theatre next week, has already started his new production to follow this comedy drama of the race track.

"Eddie Cuts In," an original story by George Kibbe Turner, is Quillan's second picture of the season. Teamed with him are Robert Armstrong and Ginger Rogers as principals. Earl Baldwin made the adaptation and Albert Rogell, who directed "Sweepstakes," is again guiding Eddie.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has signed new contracts with George Kelly and Charles MacArthur, playwrights, and also with Jean Hersholt. Kelly and MacArthur are now at work at the Culver City Studio, each being busy on an original screen story. Hersholt's last role was in John Gilbert's "Cheri-Bibi."

Completing the cast for the second "Gay Girl" comedy. "Take 'Em and Shake 'Em," Charles Judels and Arthur Hoyt have been signed for the masculine leads. William Goodrich is directing the comedy, fir which Beatrice Van wrote the original story.

June MacCloy, Marion Shilling and Gertrude Short, who played the leads in "June First,' the initial comedy of this RKO Pathe series, are again featured in "Take 'Em and Shake 'Em."

Two more have been added to the cast of "Homicide Squad," under the direction of George Melford at Universal City. They are George Brent and Walter C. Percival, who succeeds Pat O'Malley in the role of Proctor. Production should be completed some time this week. Leo Carrillo, Mary Brian, Noah Beery, Russell Gleason and J. Carrol Naish are in the cast.

Alice Lake, who has a small role in Elissa Landi's Fox Film, "Wicked," was one of the leading comediennes of the screen not so many years ago. She was starred in a series of silent comedies. Since her comedy days she has played a variety of roles. In "Wicked" she portrays a wisecracking woman convict.

"Border Law," Columbia Pictures' latest Buck Jones Western company is on location at Lasky's ranch California, where they are shooting some authentic outdoor stuff.

Paul Porcasi, who played a leading comedy role in Columbia's "The Good Bad Girl," has been awarded the identical role in the Spanish version of the picture.

Rumours Associate Al Jolson with "Green Pastures"; It Sounds Good

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